COMMUTER BENEFIT PLAN



If you are one of the thousands of County of Los Angeles (County) employees who take public transportation to and from work and would like to save money on your transportation expenses, then you will be pleased to know that the County provides an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) approved transportation benefit that allows County employees to save on their taxes. By enrolling in the County's Commuter Benefit Plan (CBP or the Plan), you get to take advantage of the automatic payment and

delivery features as well as save on your commuting expenses - such as bus/rail passes, transit vouchers, Metrolink passes, and Transit Access Pass cards (TAP cards).

Enroll Now!!

About The Plan:

The Plan allows you to save money by paying eligible public transit commuting expenses with *pre-tax* payroll deductions up to IRS limits (\$245 per month for 2013). Eligible expenses that exceed the IRS limit are deducted from your paycheck on an after-tax basis. Simply stated, you do not have to pay Federal or State





taxes or the Hospital Insurance Tax (HIT), if applicable, on the pre-tax money you use to pay for eligible public transit commuting expenses. By using pre-tax dollars, your transit expenses are tax-free and reduce your overall taxable income. Assuming a combined HIT, Federal and State tax rate of 25%, and a \$245 per month pre-tax payroll deduction, you may be able to save a net of \$1,006 per year.

CBP Reference Guide TAP Card Guide

Participation:



Participation is easy with pre-tax payroll deductions! After enrolling in the CBP using WageWorks' online enrollment or by calling WageWorks at 1-855-428-0446, you can either set up recurring deductions (the same deduction each month until you change or cancel your transit order) for the commuting expenses you know you'll have or you can utilize the Plan on a month-to-month basis if your public transportation needs change every month. If you use public transportation on an infrequent basis (a few times a week/month), the CBP offers a

convenient Commuter Card, a reloadable transportation debit card, designed to meet your special commuting needs. You can even place multiple orders quickly and easily on



WageWorks' website if you purchase more than one transportation product from different companies to get to work.

How It Works:

Once you enroll in the CBP and you place a transit order by the monthly deadline (the 10th of every month), your payroll deduction will be taken from your second paycheck of the same month you made an election (30th payday), which is two months prior to the benefit month. For example, deductions taken on the December 30th paycheck will be for the month of February transit benefits.

Also, it's important to know that a monthly administrative fee of \$4.40 per month will be taken as an after-tax deduction every time you have a payroll deduction to fulfill a transit order. This fee may decrease if participation in the CBP increases... So,



SPREAD THE WORD!! Remember that you will enjoy the convenience of having your transit passes/vouchers delivered to your home (or to a different address that you designate through WageWorks) and the tax savings that come with participation in the Plan.

Additional details about this program, such as important deadlines and cut-off dates for changing or canceling your transit order; frequently asked questions and answers; and, step by step enrollment instructions, can be found in the *CBP Reference Guide* (see link to the right) or by contacting your Department's Employee Transportation Coordinator (or ETC).







